THE 76 SEABEE NEWS

Published Every Friday By The 76th Battalion, Detached Unit.

VOL.1 23 July 1943 NO. 12

THE ORIGIN OF A SEABEE

If you looked in Noah Webster you would find he'd never heard
Of the thing that's called a Seabee; it's a fairly modern word.
But ask the German soldiers or the sailors of Japan
And you'll find the meaning of the word is known to every man.

When the Army had some heavy work it used to use the mules.
The Navy had to use Marines, but they were slow with tools
So the White House called a meeting (FDR's a Navy man)
And the brass-hats all assembled to devise a better plan.

"My friends," began the President, "I think we all agree,
We've an awful lot of work to do before the world is free.
Now as I understandit, and I thinkyou'll see I'm right,
We need a breed of sailors who can work as well as fight."

The brass-hats nodded sagely;Mr. Knox began to speak.
"I was thinking on those very lines," he said, "the other week.
With sailors smart as Army mules and strong as Fleet Marines
We could show the Axis nations what a blitzkrieg really means."

The President sat back and thought and puffed his cigarette.
"I rather think," he said at length, "there's one thing you forget.
As strong as Fleet Marines, you say, and smart as Army mules,
But what we really need is men experienced with tools."

"They'll have to build an airfield on shifting desert sands,
A drydock in the Solomons, a base in Artic lands.
TheyIll have to dredge the channels where submarines can go
To rest between their trips along the coast near Tokyo."

Then Knox said, "Surely men so skilled prove to be too old
To stand the Tropic's burning heat or Artic's biting cold."
The President smiled and answered as he took a thoughtful puff,
"The years don't make a Seabee old, they only make him tough!"

"A Seabee! What's a Seabee?", they all desired to know.
"A Seabee?" said the President, and his words were deep and slow,
"A Seabee is a fighting man who gets the big jobs done.
He can make a gun emplacement as well as shoot the gun.

He can build a hangar, pave a road, repair a wrecked machine.
(There are some whose first enlistment was back in seventeen.)
He can sink a well, construct a dam, do anything you like.
He can work while shells are bursting, and he never goes on strike.

That, gentlemen, is roughly the thought I had in mind.
Now get your men to look around and see what they can find.
A crew of skilled Americans, to work as well as fight,
Will solve the country's problem. Thank you gentlemen. Good night."

(The above poem is being printed for the first time and was written here on the Rock a few days ago. It was not written by a Seabee. The author prefers to remain unknown.)

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SO LONG UNTIL LATER

All of us here reluctantly bid Lieut. Commander Albert C. Barber goodby as he leaves to rejoin the other boys up yonder. We are sure that we have profited by his stay here and sincerely hope that he has enjoyed being with us as much as we have enjoyed having him here. It is certain that he will be most welcome to the fellows up there. We hope to be with him again some of these days.

We extend to Doctor Kelly a very hearty welcome as he comes to relieve Doctor Barber here.

ART EXHIBIT

Don't fail to see Corporal V. D. Zamkowich's drawings on display in the Cooper Library. Corporal Zamkowich, of the Marines, is a very talented artist and should make some publisher a top notch staff artist after Tojo is put in his proper place. He should be on the staff of The Leatherneck now. The Leatherneck is the Marine Corp publication.

DIVINE SERVICES

Every Sunday
(Protestant)

0900 ---------- Menge Theatre
1100 ---------- -Cooper Chapel

(Catholic)

0900 ------- CB Reading Room

PRAYER FOR THOSE WE LOVE

O Thou who hast ordered this wondrous world, who knowest all things in earth and heaven; So fill our hearts with trust in thee, that by night and by day, at all times and in all seasons, we may without fear commit those who are dear to us to thy never-failing love, for this life and the life to come. Amen.

(Selected)

AN URGENT CASE

The following bit of humor was given to us by "Kid" Olander of the bulkhead squad and was sent to him from friends in the States.

Mr. Headquarters
U. S. Armory

Dear Mr. Headquarters:

My husband was induced into the surface long months ago and I air received no pay from him since he was gone. Please send me my elopment as I have a four months old baby and he is my only support and I kneed it every day to buy food and keep us enclosed . I am a poor woman and all that I have is at the front. Both sides of my parents are very old and I can't suspect anything from them as my mother has been in bed thirteen years with one doctor and won't take another. My husband is in charge of a Spittoon. Do I git air more than I am going to git? Please send me a letter and tell me if my husband made application for a wife and child and please send me a wife's form to be made out. I have already wrote to Mr. Roosevelt and got no answer and if I don't hear from you soon I will write Uncle Sam about you and him.

Very Truly,
Mrs. John Doe

P.S. My husband says he sets every night in the Y. M. C. A. with the piano playing in his uniform. I think you can find him there.

MOVIES FOR THE WEEK

July 23 - You Can't Escape Forever
" 24 -------- Tough Kid
" 25 -------Nine Lives Are Not Enough
" 26 --- In Old Colorado
" 27 --------- Army Surgeon
" 28 -----
" 29 -----

TO THE BOYS UP YONDER

We want to express our sincere thanks to Chaplain Chamberlin for sending us those copies of the 76th BATTALION NEWS, published on Oahu. We are always glad to get them. Watch the bulletin board in the post office building for later issues. J. C. Benbow, CY, always sees that Chaplain Chamberlin gets a copy of our own 76th SEABEE NEWS. Be careful up there, fellows.

COMPANY A

This guy "Rusty" Hughes must have a direct contact with Secretary Knox - He always has advance information or what is commonly known as "Scuttlebutt".

Our new Chief, J. J. Keily is certainly off to a swell start with the men. They say that he is a swell "Joe" and there is no better compliment than that.

Dill is not exactly cutting out paper dolls, but he is making toy animals out of shells and pipe cleaners.

If Chief Brantly was as big as his voice he would be about six feet and six inches tall.

L. F. Blaschke, the San Angelo Flash, has retired from softball.

Prestidge should be excused from drill as he gets plenty of marching by his numerous trips through the chow line.

Wonder if that wart is the secret of Curly Mattison's success?

Kooken says he would like to live on an island the rest of his life - but it happens to be Santa Catalina Island, his home before joining the Seabees.

C. A. Bearce, of A-1, has no fear of the hoodoo number 13. Bearce enlisted in the regular Navy on November 13, 1925, rode in sleeper number 13 from Kansas City to San Diego. Thirteen men from his boot company were sent to the Engineering force and Bearce now lives in hut number 13 here on the Rock. (The editor of this sheet was sworn into the Seabees on November 13, 1942. Let's be careful Mr. Bearce. Ed.)

THIS AND THAT

We will have to excuse C. H. Burns, headquarters reporter, for not having any news from his company this week. Burns has always been one of the most faithful of our staff and we like to have fellows like that to work with. He was going to the Harbor for medical care and naturally was busy. Godspeed and hurry back "Kid" Burns.

Jimmy Plato, local Seabee and ice cream magnate, will make the trip with Burns. Lots of luck to both of them.

We promised last week that a poem about the Seabees, written by two Seabees, would be printed this week. It will be printed next week and was written by Christian and Currotto, of Company D. Pardon us, fellows.

We want to thank someone for the airing out of the chow hall. It is much more comfortable for us during chow hours.

You should see "Squad Leader" Corley, of D-6 do his stuff during those maneuvers we have. He may be of great value some of these days.

"Rock Happy" Laws is still dreaming of Arkansas. Laws is a good sport and can take all kinds of ribbing.

The boys on the job accross the lagoon are doing fine work but are always late for everything. They are so much farther away than the most of us that they can always be found on the end of the beer line and any other line that you may see.

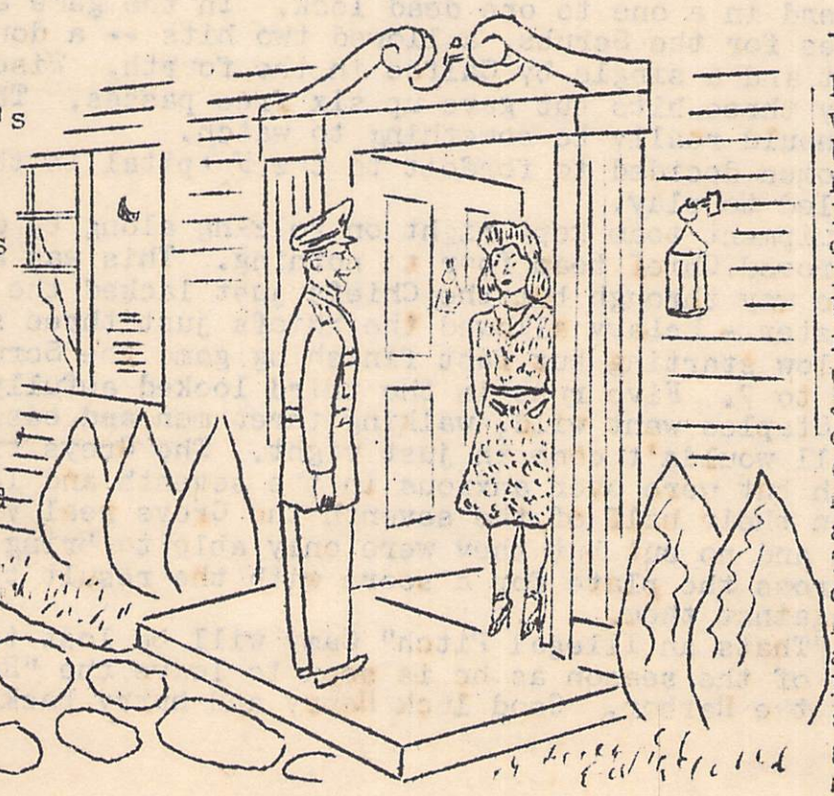
R. J. Nuno, of Company A, may strike for Admiral. Visit in his hut sometimes.

SADIE: "My father is a big shot in the Army. He has an oak leaf on his shoulder."
GERTIE: "That's nothing. My dad's in the Navy and he has Four Roses on his hip."

A newspaper printed on "cheese" was published in Gouda, Holland about 1840. Dutch readers would "swallow" anything in those days.

(Selected)

Four Marines were playing bridge in a hut on Wake Island. Suddenly another leatherneck burst into the room and shouted: "The Japs are landing a force of about 200 men on the beach!" The four bridge playing Marines looked at one another. Finally one said: "I'll go. I'm dummy this hand.



"I'm the man who censors your boy friend's mail. I've just been dying to meet you."

SPORTS
By R. H. Busby

On Wednesday the 14th, the game between the Yeomen and the Guns was cancelled. So many games in the league having been already postpo our local Base Ball Czar - Mr. Clauve, arranged to play off the tie game of July 4th between the Guns and the Engineers. A completely rearranged Gun team ap peared on the field: Big John Arms behind the plate, Wiser pitching, and Goolsby on third were some of the changes while Mickleburgh in right field was a new addition. Hit and run ball was played throughout the game, the Guns getting 14 hits and the Engineers 15. The Guns while getting fewer hits made them pay dividends and won the game 15 to 10. This was the Engineers second defeat of th league and dropped them from a tie for second in to third place.

Tuesdays game saw the now hustling Chiefs defeat the Scrubs 9 to A five run rally in the sixth put the Scrubs ahead for the minute 8 to 6 but a hit by Lloyd and an error by 'Bama Goswick (third of the game- wonder if he thinks he can make a rate that way?) hits by Poole and Wallace and a sacrafice fly by Wellington back in the lead 9 to 8. In the last of the seventh Todd, Shannon, and Staples went down in order to end the game. Chief Lloyd's work behind the plate and his two for two hitting were outstanding.

The Hospital defeated the Greys by a score of 4 to 2 in a game in which no one was willing to guess the outcome before the end of the seventh. The three runs scored by the Hospital team in the first inni provedgenough to keep them ahead throughout the game with the Scrubs making only one serious threat and that in the fifth when the side was retired with two men on.

Outclassed from start to finish the Aces lost to the undefeated Equipment team 8 to 1. Mc Lavy - The Old Master - allowed only four hits while his teammates, lead by Blanton, Barnes and Abbott with two hits each, collected ten. Theoharris leading off for the Aces in the first drove a clean single down the third base line and later scored for the only Aces run. Equipment after scoring four in the first, two in the second, and two in the third eased off and neglected their batting averages so the game ended with the same score as that at the end of the third - 8 to 1.

The Engineers, after their defeat at the hands of the Guns, took revenge on the slipping Carpenter team and put accross 15 runs on 13 hits to win 15 to 6. The Carpenters lead in hits, getting 14, but could not make them pay off in runs. Payne for the Engineers was the Swat King with three for three and a walk, scoring four runs. The Carpenters have decided to throw in the towel and will forfeit all future games.

The Scrubs and Guns played a bang up game of ball for four plus innings to end in a one to one dead lock. In the game as far as it went, Staples for the Scrubs, a llowed two hits -- a double by Blair in the first and a single by Calfee in the fourth. Wiser for the Gun allowed only three hits but gave up six free passes. The playoff of this game should really be something to watch.

The Yeomen decided to forfeit to the Hospital in the game they were scheduled to play.

The Equipment team kept right on rolling along by defeating the greatly improved Chief team four to nothing. This was a good fast game all the way through but the Chiefs just lacked the hitting power. That Old Master - McLavy allowed the Chiefs just three scattered hits.

In a slow starting but fast finishing game the Scrubs defeated the Greys 8 to 7. Five runs in the third looked awfully big until the sixth when Staples went wild, walking three men and easing up because his fast ball wouldn't come in just right. The Greys tied the game up in the sixth but were over anxious in the seventh and let two runs come in. In their half of the seventh the Greys really made a threat with two on and no out but they were only able to bring one of the runners accross the plate for a score with the result that the 8 to 7 score was against them.

Henry "Thats an Illegal Pitch" Camy will be lost to the Guns for the balance of the season as he is soon to leave the "Rock" for the hospital at the Harbor. Good luck Henry and hurry back.